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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 23, 2019

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ANNOUNCING THE SENSORY-FRIENDLY PLUS! PERFORMANCE OF *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*

May 11 Performance also to be ASL Interpreted

PROVIDENCE, RI: In support of its commitment to theater for all, **Trinity Repertory Company** announces its **May 11, 2:00 pm Sensory-Friendly Plus!** performance of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Designed to meet the needs of children and adults on the autism spectrum, and/or individuals with sensory processing disorders or other cognitive disabilities, this sensory-friendly performance features **modified sound, lighting and other adjustments**. Patrons are invited to make sounds, enter and exit as needed during the performance and enjoy the show with their families, as well as a **“meet your seat”** an hour prior to the performance, and a **prologue**, which gives attendees a behind-the-scenes look at the production. This performance will also include American Sign Language interpreters. More information about the Sensory-Friendly Plus! performances can be found at www.trinityrep.com/sensoryfriendly. Tickets can be purchased online or by calling the box office at (401) 351-4242.

ABOUT THE SHOW

A strange and unusual plant seems like just the thing to save a beleaguered Skid Row flower shop and its hapless employees, Seymour and Audrey. But when that plant turns out to feed only on blood and is inclined toward world-domination, well... things get a little messy.

ABOUT SENSORY FRIENDLY

Trinity Rep has long offered special sensory-friendly performances of *A Christmas Carol*, and beginning with the 2017-18 Season added sensory-friendly performances for all of its productions, including a



sensory-friendly subscription series. This addition is rooted in Trinity Rep's belief in creating accessible theater for all. In addition to being fully accessible, Trinity Rep also offers three Open Captioned performances for each show. Sensory Friendly Plus! only happens twice a year, with *A Christmas Carol* and our spring musical.

Dan Boyle and Daniel Perkins, Trinity Rep's sensory-friendly consultants, explain their process of preparing for the sensory-friendly performance with **Dan Boyle** saying, "We watch each performance and we curate a list of triggering items for all who come to see the shows." **Daniel Perkins** adds, "To alert patrons to the triggers, there's a red light on either side of the stage that lights before a tense moment. It's to prepare patrons who may want to cover their ears, their eyes, or leave the room should they feel uncomfortable."

THE MUSICAL AND ITS CREATORS

Based on a 1960 film titled, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* debuted off-off-Broadway in 1982, and quickly moved to an off-Broadway production that ran for five years. It was the highest-grossing production in off-Broadway history when it closed its initial run in 1987. The stage version inspired the 1986 movie musical starring Rick Moranis, Ellen Greene, and Steve Martin.

The musical is written by Howard Ashman (book and lyrics) and Alan Menken (music), whose other works includes *Aladdin*, *The Little Mermaid* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

PARTNERSHIPS

The production is supported by **Washington Trust**. The media sponsor is **Rhode Island Monthly**. The 2018-19 Season Sponsors are **Ocean State Job Lot** and **Rhode Island Council on the Arts**. **Southwest Airlines** is the official airline of Trinity Rep.



TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY

Rhode Island's Tony Award-winning theater, Trinity Rep has created unparalleled professional theater for and with its community since its founding in 1963. Trinity Rep strives to facilitate human connection and has been a driving force behind the creativity that fuels and defines the region for more than 50 years.

Trinity Rep is committed to reinventing the public square and inspiring dialogue by creating emotionally-stimulating live productions that range from classical to contemporary and innovative education programs for all ages and abilities. Its annual production of *A Christmas Carol* has brought families together for more than four decades and made memories for over a million audience members. It will return again in 2019 for its 42nd year.

The 2018-19 Season included *Pride & Prejudice* by Kate Hamill, *black odyssey* by Marcus Gardley, a special limited-engagement of *An Iliad* by Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, *The Song of Summer* by Lauren Yee, *Little Shop of Horrors* with book and lyrics by Howard Ashman and music by Alan Menken, and will conclude with José Rivera's *Marisol* in May and June.

The recently-announced 2019-20 Season features the world-premiere of *The Prince of Providence* by George Brant, based on the book *The Prince of Providence* by Mike Stanton, *Fade* by Tanya Saracho, August Wilson's *Radio Golf*, *A Tale of Two Cities* by Brian McEleney, based on the novel by Charles Dickens, *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage, and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler.

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